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530CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Lebanon

DATE 25X1A

SUBJECT Clash Between Communists and
Members of Popular Party

INFO. [REDACTED]

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DIST. 18 November 1946

PAGES

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT

1. About a week ago, the Popular Party (Al-Hisb al-Jam'i) was due to open a branch in Halba, Akkar. One day before the appointed time Farid al-Ashqar, leader of the Communist Party in Akkar, called on the District Officer at his office and begged that he deny permission to the new branch of the Popular Party.
2. When the District Officer said that this was impossible, Ashqar replied, "If the government will not prevent this affair, we will do it by force." Thereupon, the District Officer immediately ordered the arrest of Ashqar and sent him to prison in Tripoli.
3. The following day, the communists attacked members of the Popular Party as they marched in a parade, and tore up one or two Lebanese flags; thereupon, more communists were imprisoned.

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Next Review Date: 2003

Document No. 010
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
Auth: DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
DDA REG. 77-1783
Date: 13/05/78 By: 029

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